

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Provided are methods, data communication apparatus and computer programs for managing communications between a remote communication manager and a set of communications managers in an associated group. The group of communication managers have shared access to resources which enable any communication manager in the group to recover from failures experienced by another communication manager in the group. In particular, recovery of failed inbound and outbound channels is achieved with the advantage of improved availability of data transmissions. Preferably, the recovery uses synchronization information to ensure that data is recovered to a consistent state so that channel recovery is achieved without loss of data integrity.

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